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REPORT FROM "YUZ" ON THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN SLOVAKIA (1944)

From: ISTANBUL

To: MOSCOW

No: 157, 158

22 Sept. 44

[Two-part message complete]

Part I] To: VIKTOR. [1]

On 20th September I personally had a long talk with "YUZ" [ii] at the [a] safe flat. In addition to the report which Yuz passed to us, in the talk he related the following about the situation in SLOVAKIA:-

The main [1 group garbled] forces from which the LONDON Government and the military draw support consist of three groups:

- (1) A military underground organisation led by the former Lieutenant-Colonel of the Czechoslovak Army (now General) GOLIKOV, [iii] a devoted patriot of his native land and Russophile. The staff of the organisation is in BAHENI BYSTRICA. The principal leaders of the organisation are:
 - ✓ VIKTOR [iv] - a lieutenant-colonel, staunch patriot and Russophile;
 - ✓ KIR [v] - a priest, officer and Russophile;
 - MARKO - a lieutenant-colonel and true patriot;
 - TALSKI [vi] - an officer, true patriot and Russophile.

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2

3/MBP/T4255

- (2) A civil political organization, consisting of representatives of various political parties (Agrarians, Social-Democrats, Popular (Socialists) supporting BENES^[v] and led by ŠROBÁR^[ŠROBAR] (a BENES^[v] rep). ŠROBÁR's closest associates [1 group unrecovered] - KAPINAJ, SOLTES^[ŠOL'TES] and HORVAT^[KHORVAT] (the last two are former Social Democrats) - [1% are not well-known] to No2.
- (3) The URSINY^[vi] group ([URSINY is] a supporter of HODZA^[HODZHA]), uniting the right-wing and reactionary elements of the former political parties, including the Sidorovites^[SIDOROVITSY]. [vii] URSINY himself is in contact with MACH^[MAH], [viii] to whom he promised support after victory over GERMANY in exchange for the support being given by MACH to the URSINY group

[23 groups unrecoverable]

[34 groups unrecovered]

[32 groups unrecoverable]

[One name unrecovered] [ix] GUSAK^[ix] and [one name unrecovered]

[16 groups unrecovered]

[105 groups unrecovered]

No. 17^o

Note: [a] 'the' or 'a'.

[b] Inserted by translator.

Comments: [i] VIKEN : Lt. Gen. P. M. FITIN.
 [ii] YAZ : Unidentified cover-name.
 [iii] GOLITSY : Or HOLITSY. Brig. Genl Jan GOLITSY.
 [iv] VESSEL : Or WESSEL.
 [v] BENES : Dr. Edward BENES, President of CZECHOSLOVAKIA.
 [vi] URSINY : Possibly Jan URSINY, a founder of the Czech resistance movement.
 [vii] SIDOROVITES : Possibly supporters of Earl SIDOR, a former premier of SLOVAKIA.
 [viii] MACH : Possibly Dr. Samo MACH, a Minister of the Interior in SLOVAKIA.
 [ix] GUSAK : Or HUSAK. General HUSAK.